

REMARKS

In response to the above-identified Office Action, Applicant has amended FIG. 6 to include reference number 60, Applicant has amended the specification to correct a minor typographical error, has amended claims 1, 5, 6, 12, 15, 16, 18, 20, 23, 24, and 26 and added new dependent claims 28-35. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments. In view of the following remarks, Applicant hereby respectfully requests reconsideration of the application, and allowance of claims 1-33.

The Office has rejected claims 1-2, 5-7, 12-13, 15-16, 18, 20-21, 23-24 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated over U.S. Patent No. 5,890,177 to Moody et al. (“Moody”), claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moody, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,890,170 to Sidana (“Sidana”), claims 4, 14 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moody in view of *PARC WebEdit: Shared Text Editing in a Web Browser* by Ken Pier et al (“Pier”), and claims 3, 8-11, 17 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moody in view of *In-place editing of Web pages: Sparrow community-shared documents* by Bay-Wei Chang (“Chang”).

Moody, Sidana, Pier, and Chang, alone or in combination, do not suggest or disclose, “an element selection device that selects a portion of an electronic document . . . editing of the selected portion . . . replaces the selected portion with the edited portion” as recited in claim 1, or “selecting a portion of an electronic document . . . determining an edit user interface for the selected portion . . . editing the selected portion using the edit user interface . . . replacing the selected portion based on the edited portion” as recited in claim 12 or “information that selects a portion of an electronic document . . . determines an edit user interface for the selected portion . . . edits the selected portion . . . replaces the selected portion based on the edited portion” as recited in claim 20.

The Office’s attention is respectfully directed to col. 2, lines 31-34 in Moody, which discloses that each editor receives a complete copy of the document and then edits his own copy of the document. The Office’s attention is also respectfully directed to col. 4, lines 30-34 and FIG. 2A in Moody which discloses that to obtain comments from three editors the author makes three copies 202, 204, and 206 of the document 200. As disclosed at col. 4, lines 37-39 in Moody which discloses that each of the editors can edit his own individual copy. Accordingly, Moody discloses a method and apparatus in which the entire copy of the

document is selected and edited, not a selected portion of the document. Similarly, Sidana, Pier, and Chang do not teach or suggest selecting a portion of an electronic document, determining an edit user interface for the selected portion, editing the selected portion, and replacing the selected portion as claimed.

As described at page 3, lines 3-9, in the above-identified patent application, “With previous web page authoring systems, the page author is presented with a single editable document from which all of the HTML of the page is accessible. The systems and methods of the present invention realize that the code of a group-editable web page can be considered in several distinct parts . . . Furthermore, the systems and methods of this invention recognize that most changes that most page authors might wish to make to a web page can be made by modifying one of these parts at a time.” Additionally, as described at page 3, lines 13-19, in the above-identified patent application, “By displaying all parts of a web page to the page author for editing, the page author is required to scroll through the code of the page and locate the correct place within a web page at which the edit is to occur. The systems and methods of this invention can provide a user interface that allows a page author to edit each of the three kinds of page elements . . . by suppressing or simplifying the display of the page element(s) not requiring modification. Such selective editing targets a particular type of page element by using a dedicated user interface to access the element.”

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Office is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 12 and 20. Since claims 2-11 depend from and contain the limitations of claim 1, claims 13-19 depend from and contain the limitations of claim 12, and claims 21-27 depend from and contain the limitations of claim 20, they are distinguishable over the cited reference and are patentable in the same manner as claims 1, 12 and 20.

Moody, Sidana, Pier, and Chang, alone or in combination, do not suggest or disclose, “a document locking device that at least one of locks and unlocks the electronic document” as recited in claim 4, or “locking the electronic document” as recited in claim 14 or “information that locks the electronic document” as recited in claim 22. As acknowledged by the Office, Moody does not disclose locking the electronic document or a document locking device. However, contrary to the Office assertions, it would not have been obvious to incorporate the file-level locking of Pier with Moody. Moody at col. 1, lines 35-37 distinguishes itself from prior systems that only permit one user to open and modify the file

Additionally, Moody at col. 2, lines 32-43 states, “Each editor then edits his own document using an editing application program . . . The edited copies are then retrieved and compared and a single marked up document is created . . . A set of “consolidation” tools are provided to quickly transfer edits between the physically adjacent areas of the screens and to make, or accept, edits made by any of the editors.” Further, Moody at col. 2, lines 21-30 states that it discloses a method and apparatus for document editing software that allows rapid consolidation of the edits into a single document. Accordingly, not only is there no need for locking of the electronic document in the apparatus and method disclosed in Moody, but Moody teaches away from it. Locking of the electronic document in Moody would substantially slow down the editing process and thus defeat the stated purpose of Moody which is to quickly transfer the edits from multiple editors to one document. Accordingly, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Office is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 4, 14, and 22.

Moody, Sidana, Pier, and Chang, alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest, “wherein the edit user interface suppresses one or more non-selected portions of the electronic document” as recited in claim 6 or, “wherein the edit user interface suppresses the at least one non-selected portion of the electronic document” as recited in claims 15 and 23. The Office’s attention is respectfully directed to column 2, lines 30-34 in Moody, which discloses, “[A] document is collaboratively edited by multiple editors by providing each editor with a separate copy of the document. Each editor then edits his own document copy using an editing application program, such as a word processor, to produce an edited copy.” Accordingly, Moody only discloses editing an entire copy of a text documents. There is no teaching or suggestion in Moody of suppressing any portion of the copy of the document being edited. Sidana discloses at the abstract and column 2, lines 53-57, a method and system for allowing a user to create and add information to a website by dragging and dropping icons representing the information that the owner wants to be accessible through the home page. Sidana does not disclose editing each of the plurality of component parts separately while suppressing component parts not requiring modification. Pier discloses at the abstract and page 3, paragraph 4, a tool for plain-text editing only of shared web documents, but does not disclose editing each of the plurality of component parts separately while suppressing component parts not requiring modification. Chang discloses at the abstract and page 1, paragraph 4, a lightweight text editing technology for facilitating joint editing of a web page by more than one person. Chang discloses the editing of data items by

users, but limits format changes and template design to the page author as disclosed on page 4, paragraph 4 and page 10, paragraph 2. Chang does not disclose editing each of the plurality of component parts separately while suppressing component parts not requiring modification.

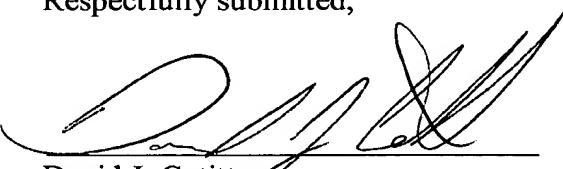
As described at page 3, lines 15-19, in the above-identified patent application, “The systems and methods of this invention can provide a user interface that allows a page author to edit each of the three kinds of page elements . . . by suppressing or simplifying the display of the page element(s) not requiring modification. Such selective editing targets a particular type of page element by using a dedicated user interface to access the element” Accordingly, the present invention is advantageous in that it does not require the user to scroll through all the code of the page and locate the correct place within a web page at which the edit is to occur and suppresses the portions not being edited to facilitate the editing process. Accordingly, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Office is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 6, 15, and 23.

Applicant has also added new dependent claims 28-33. Moody, Sidana, Pier, and Chang, alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a plurality of editing devices each with a different edit user interface where one of the edit user interfaces from one of the plurality of editing devices is selected for the editing of the selected portion and suppressing of one or more non-selected portions of the electronic document. Moody, Sidana, Pier, and Chang, alone or in combination, also do not disclose or suggest that the electronic document is a web page and the plurality of editing devices are each different web page editing devices. As disclosed at page 3, lines 15-18 in the above-identified patent application, “The systems and methods of the present invention can provide a user interface that allows a page author to edit each of the three kinds of page elements, e.g., items, templates and formatting code, such as HTML, by suppressing or simplifying the display of the page element(s) not requiring modification.” Additionally, as disclosed at page 3, lines 20-21 in the above-identified patent application, “The exemplary systems and methods of this invention provide tools for group editing of electronic documents. In particular, the tools allow for group editing of web pages.” Accordingly, these new dependent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

In view of all of the foregoing, Applicant submits that this case is in condition for allowance and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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